GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:374
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2000
CONVERSION OF HIGH GRADE COAL
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present rules laid down for conversion of coking coal into non-coking coal;

(b) the quantum of high grade coal (coking coals) converted into low-grade coal (Non-coking coal) in coal mines under Central Coalfields Limited during the last three years and till date;

(c) whether the high-grade coal is being sold at lower prices causing huge losses to the company;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct high-level inquiry into this bungling;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a): As per Government Notification bearing No. 28012/7/93-CA dated16.6.94 Coking coal, weakly coking coal, semi coking coal which fall outside the categories shown in Table-I shall be treated as Non-coking coal for the purpose of pricing and classified accordingly.

As per the guidelines, coking coal having ash % more than 35 cannot be treated as washery-IV grade. Therefore it has to be re-assigned some grade. Accordingly, in CCL 3 cases namely Karo VII seam at Karo OCP-I, KARO VII seam at Khas Mahal Project(KMP) and IInd bottom seam at Parej East Project have been converted from washery-IV grade to Non- Coking coal. However, grade declaration has been done with the approval of Coal Controller.

(b): No high grade coking coal seam/mines have been converted to low grade non-coking coal under the command area of CCL. However, CCL had classified only inferior grade coking coal (For example washery-IV) to non-coking coal in case of one seam each at 3 mines, namely Karo-II seam at Karo OCP-I, Karo-VII seam at KMP and IInd bottom seam at Parej East during the last three years as the above coal had higher ash percentage than those suitable for coking coal.

(c): It is not a fact that higher grade coal is being sold at a lower price.

(d) to (f): Question does not arise in view of reply of part(c) of the question.